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SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 1956

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Marginal Column

By BENJAMIN AKKIN

THERE is an old story concerning the difference between a lady and a diplomat. If a lady says no — so goes the story — she means perhaps; if she says perhaps, she means yes. If a diplomat says yes, he means perhaps; if he says perhaps, he means no; if he says no, he is no diplomat.

I CITE the story because, while not necessarily true of diplomats and ladies in general, it certainly clarifies the attitudes of diplomats in London and Washington toward Israel requests for arms. If they don't say "no" to these requests, it isn't because they haven't made up their minds in the negative. It is simply because they are diplomats. Their "perhaps" is just a traditional diplomatic way of saying "no," and we might just as well realize it.

THIS does not mean that at some future date London or Washington's attitude may not change. If there is something unbecomingly to diplomats, it is to stick dogmatically to an attitude once assumed. No less a master of the craft than Churchill has remarked: "consistency is a much overrated virtue." But for the time being, and until a change occurs, the attitude of the two great English-speaking Powers toward Israel for arms is clear, and only one word presents it correctly: embargo. A one-sided embargo.

Of course, the word is not used, and here we come back to a subject already discussed over and over in this column: the use of words in international politics. Good diplomats just do not use words accurately to denote acts or intentions. They use words to disguise acts and intentions in the light most advantageous to them. The explanation may be correct or otherwise; this is immaterial. What matters is that the explanation read well.

IN this respect, Israel has much to learn. She is young, but this is the reason why we shouldn't learn. The Soviets are young too, but how they have learned! Some explanations are down as classic examples of the diplomat's art. Thus, Stalin's "democratic constitution," the "equality of States in the Soviet Union," the "Czechoslovakian 'commercial transaction'." One can learn a lot from America, too, though American diplomats have only recently acquired the fine points of the game and occasionally still slip into the slovenly habit of calling a spade a spade. And then, there is the hand-drawn, very free and very sharp-eyed press, which often spots a manufactured explanation and translates it into plain English. Even the real matter of the British last one hundred years there has been any British Prime Minister or Foreign Secretary except Palmerston and Churchill according to whom Britain had ever done or contemplated a single foreign or colonial move for reasons of self-interest. Everything has been done for the sake of some other nation or group, or for the sake of humanity, or for the sake of principle, but never for the sake of England. A truly remarkable record. And so, when Sir Anthony Eden, in his Guildhall speech, appeared to call Israel a "Jewish state," he was called a "Jew-baiter" because the British government had no self-interest in their quarrels, he was following sound reasoning.

JUDGED by these and other valid standards, Israel diplomats must appear rather naive. Of course Israel will seem to outsiders incredibly selfish, since she always cites her needs and less often principle; and she goes on calling things by the worst possible names, often tagged on by ill-meaning editors. But she is just as good and even more correct terms lying around. What so high-minded a nation as India and so fervent an advocate of Israel as Pakistan will "exchange of populations" and what, in the case of Israel, was expressly recommended by the British Labour Party and by the Peel Commission (Israel) (ignoring the 300,000 Jews who fled and the hundreds of thousands waiting to flee from Arab countries and thinking only of the 500,000 Arabs who fled from Israel, as if Arab refugees were a problem). What other nation, Britain especially, call "police action," Israel presently misuses "retaliation." What the most august diplomatic documents call "self-defence," Israel has been known to call "preventive war," thereby appearing guilty before the event.

THIS is why I think that, among the various experts the U.N. and UNRWA are sending to Israel, it might be well to request an expert on clichés and the use of conventional diplomatic language.

Jerusalem, February 12.

MEMOR TO CAIRO

BOMBAY, Saturday (Reuters). — Mr. Krishna Menon, India's Minister without Portfolio, left here this evening for Cairo. He will stay there for a few days before going on to New York for a meeting of the United Nations Trusteeship Council.

KISSABLE?

Kissable!

Stalin Policies Erred, Moscow Congress Told

MOSCOW, Saturday (Reuters). — First Deputy Premier Anastas Mikoyan made an unprecedented attack on Stalin in a speech published today. He mentioned the late Soviet leader by name and condemned some of his economic theories and his departures from "collective leadership."

The speech, delivered on Thursday to the 20th Congress of the Communist Party, was published in "Pravda."

(Western observers saw the disavowal of much of the Stalin heritage as pointing to the triumph of collective leadership in the Soviet Union and the intention to slough the Stalin legend. The attacks during the congress on the glorification of individuals were interpreted as contradicting rumours that the Party Secretary, Mr. Nikita Khrushchev, was aiming at ending himself up as a second Stalin.)

Mr. Mikoyan said of a section of Stalin's economic thesis, "The Economic Problems of Socialism in the U.S.S.R.," published just before his death that it "can hardly help us and is hardly correct." Its theory of "absolute stagnation of capitalism" is alien to Marxism-Leninism, he declared. "This section does not explain the complex and contradictory phenomena of modern capitalism."

A. Mikoyan said that the fact of the rise of capitalist production in many countries after World War II. He also criticized as "unsatisfactory" the main textbook on Party history, the short course written under Stalin's supervision and published soon after the war.

'Unjustly' Branded

Mr. Mikoyan said that some who had taken part in the revolution of 1917-20 "were unjustly branded enemies of the people many years after the events described." This was taken as a reference to some veteran Communist executed in the 1930's after trials for alleged treason. The Deputy Premier said that under Mr. Khrushchev collective leadership had been restored "after a long interval."

Mr. Mikoyan's speech, rivaling that of Mr. Khrushchev on Tuesday for hard-hitting criticism of home, foreign and Party policies under Stalin, was published in full over more than two pages in today's press.

Causes Sensation

Well-informed sources stated that Mr. Mikoyan's speech, with its extremely straightforward account of Party affairs under Stalin, as well as the plainly stated "break with the past," created a sensation.

Mr. Mikoyan said, "Certain elaborate forms of work have been rejected in our diplomacy, in our foreign trade and economic relations, in our relations with foreign states, in the history of these countries. The isolation of Soviet public and state organization from the outside world has been liquidated and contacts broadened between Soviet and foreign statesmen, Party workers and public organizations."

Was Endangers Capitalism

"We think that if anybody attempts to drop hydrogen or atomic bombs, then the best of humanity will not let civilization perish. They will immediately unite to put the aggressors in straitjackets and put an end to all kinds of war and also to capitalism," Mikoyan added.

"Communism has no need of war, it is against war. The ideas of Communism will triumph without war."

Second POUJADIST OUBLED FROM ASSEMBLY

PARIS, Saturday (Reuters). — The National Assembly last night unseated a second Poujadist deputy and replaced him with a Populist Republican. By 285 votes to 24 the Assembly declared M. Alfred Coste of the Catholic Popular Republican Party elected in place of the Poujadist, M. Cyrille Coste. The debate ended with the announcement of the result which the Poujadists took calmly.

AGENCY GETS LOAN

NEW YORK, Saturday (INA). — The United Jewish Appeal of New York has concluded a bank loan for the Jewish Agency of \$12m. The Agency's New York office announced yesterday. The loan is over and above the \$2m. which the Agency still owes on account of a U.S.A. loan extended in 1944, making the total loan \$14m.

Deadlock in Strike Talks Although Rift Narrowed

A series of meetings that began on Friday and was resumed on Saturday night between the Strike Coordinating Committee, on the one hand, and the Ministers Finance and Social Welfare together with Messrs. M. Namir and A. Becker, on the other, ended in a deadlock last night although the difference between the strikers and the Government had been narrowed to six per cent of the recommended increases in pay.

Friday's meeting with Mr. Eshkol was the first direct contact between the Committee and the Government. A communiqué issued by the strikers at midnight last night said that "in order to emphasize that the difference was a matter of principle and not of money, we have agreed to the withholding of one-third (34 per cent) of the increase that had been promised for 1956 until a later date," but they could not accept the Government's proposal to withhold 40 per cent as they "do not recognize the right of the employers to fix unilaterally a reduction in pay, and although the difference is only six per cent, the Government has not moved from its stubborn position."

In the course of the week-end discussions, the representatives of the Government and the strikers made it known that the Government was not prepared to pay salaries for the period of the strike, and this was the main sticking point. The strikers' communication added:

A communiqué issued by the Press Bureau last night said that Mr. Eshkol had offered on behalf of the Government to pay 100 per cent of the recommended increase for 1956, 60 per cent for 1957, and 100 per cent again for 1958. The strikers' communication said that "in accordance with the Government's promise, during the year 1957/58, the strikers would accept a 60 per cent increase, and in 1958 a 100 per cent increase, but they would not accept the Government's offer to pay 100 per cent for 1957 and 1958, as they do not recognize the right of the employers to fix unilaterally a reduction in pay, and although the difference is only six per cent, the Government has not moved from its stubborn position."

Peruvian Rebel Coup Reported Spreading

LIMA, Peru, Saturday. — The rebel coup launched on Thursday by Gen. Perón Perera to overthrow the government, was reported to be spreading to other parts of the country. The rebels had taken control of the city of Iquitos, and were reported to be moving toward Lima.

PERONIST TERRORISTS ACTIVE IN ARGENTINE

BUENOS AIRES, Saturday. — A wave of sabotage and terrorism, for which Peronists are believed responsible, has reached a new peak in Buenos Aires and Cordoba Province.

In Cordoba last night, police arrested three youths and found a time-bomb, sub-machinegun and explosives in their car. Earlier, a bomb exploded in a Catholic college.

Soviet Leaders Expected In London April 15

LONDON, Saturday (Reuters). — The Soviet leaders, Premier Nikita Khrushchev and Mr. Nikita Khrushchev, are expected to arrive in London on April 15 for their official visit to Britain, a usually reliable source said today.

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U.S. Declares 'Temporary' Embargo On Arms Deliveries to Middle East

British, French Stands Differ

The U.S. State Department on Friday announced the temporary suspension of exports of all types of arms to Israel and other neighboring states because of "current tensions" between countries in the Middle East.

U.S. Action 'Shock' To Israel Embassy

An Israel Embassy spokesman said in Washington on Friday night that the U.S. suspension of shipments had come as "a great shock." He told a press conference that since 1953 Israel had been buying routine maintenance stores "such as are required by any army" from the U.S. At present the value of such stores "in the pipeline" was about \$110,000, including vehicle spares, signal equipment, spare for aircraft frames and engines, a fleet of equipment such as parachutes and rescue gear. All this equipment had been bought in the open market after the necessary State Department clearance had been received.

The disparity between the nature of this equipment and the very potent M-41's the 18 light tanks whose shipment to Saudi Arabia was suspended does not warrant the balance which has been struck here, the spokesman said.

He said that the Israel Embassy had been "exceedingly disturbed" when it heard that the U.S. was postponing action for so long on Israel's arms request. Intended to ship those tanks to Saudi Arabia, an ally of Egypt. The M-41 (Walker Bulldog) tanks are capable of knocking out anything in any Middle East army, the spokesman said. He pointed out that Israel's most powerful tank was the Sherman. But the M-41 was capable of knocking out even Centurion tanks up to Mark 3. It was a "light" tank only in the post-war connotation of the word.

Johnston to Visit Mid-East if Needed

By JESSE ZEL LURIE

Jerusalem Post Correspondent

NEW YORK, Saturday. — Mr. Eric Johnston, President Eisenhower's special representative in the Middle East, is prepared to break his planned business trip to the Far East and land in the Middle East if the need arises, he has informed the State Department.

Canada Considering Embargo on Weapons

OTTAWA, Saturday (Reuters). — The opposition Progressive Conservative Party in Parliament yesterday to halt arms shipments to the Middle East.

Mr. Donald Fleming, the Progressive Conservative spokesman, asked whether the Government would take action parallel to that of the U.S. which on Thursday held up a shipment of tanks to Saudi Arabia.

Byroade Sees Nasser, Arms Issue Mooted

Mr. Henry Byroade, U.S. Ambassador to Egypt, yesterday met Premier Abdul Nasser for the first time since the former's recent return from consultation with the State Department in Washington, Cairo Radio reported last night. Among the subjects discussed was possible American arm shipments to the Middle East.

15,000 British Troops Left in Suez Base

CAIRO, Saturday (Reuters). — The withdrawal of British forces from Egypt is ahead of schedule, and less than 15,000 British servicemen remain in the Suez Canal Zone, the British Embassy announced today.

The fourth phase of the evacuation ended today. The last British soldier is not expected to leave the Canal Zone until June 18, final date for evacuation. British civilian contractors are now running the vast military installations of the Canal base.

KARACHI PARLEY WANTS PRO-ARAB PEACE

KARACHI, Saturday (Reuters). — A communiqué issued yesterday at the end of a four-day conference of envoys to the Middle East, said Pakistan "stood firmly" by the Baghdad defence pact.

Controller Calls for Code To Regulate State's Finances

Jerusalem Post Reporter

The formulation of a code to regulate and clarify financial affairs is recommended by Dr. S. Moses, the State Controller, in his sixth annual report which was issued at midnight on Thursday.

The report points out a considerable number of cases of inefficient and unsatisfactory administration of the State, but it does not record any cases of dishonesty. However, it points out that the lack of a comprehensive code of financial administration is a serious defect in the Ministry of Education's financial department. Pay vouchers are frequently not checked by a second person.

The registration of property in the Custodian Office in the Ministry of Justice was not up to date. In certain cases the registration of property was not complete and this might prejudice the rights of the owners. The Custodian's records of investments are sometimes not sufficiently detailed and no clear picture emerges of the persons on whose behalf the investment was made.

The Ministry of Labour sometimes grants contracts for road building based on incorrect estimates of the time and probable cost of the project. The Ministry of Development maintains insufficient control over Government companies and in many cases the company's budget is not identical with its actual expenditure. In 1953/54, for example, the Negor Phosphate Company spent 10% more than its budget.

ISRAEL PATROLS FIRED ON FOUR TIMES

Egyptian positions opened fire on Israeli patrols on four separate occasions on Saturday, the Army spokesman announced last night. In every instance, the patrol returned the fire and continued on its way with no casualties.

Three of the incidents took place in the Kusuim area and the fourth in the vicinity of Nir-Am.

AFTER MIDNIGHT

The Egyptian Government has ordered a complete stop work from Hungary, to be put up on the banks of the Nile, Radio Cairo said last night.

Concealment has been dumping cotton acquired in the arms deal with Egypt at prices well below the world market level. It was revealed in London last night. It is being offered primarily to buyers who have purchased U.S. cotton.

With profound grief we announce the death of

Mrs. Sarah (Sarina) Dwek

wife of Mr. Abraham Nissim Dwek.

The funeral will leave the home, 17 Rehov Ibn Gabriel, Rehavia, Jerusalem, today, February 19, 1956, at 1 p.m. and proceed to Har Hamezuzhot.

The families: DWEK, BENTOVIM (BUENOS), GORAL, GRINWALD, HAKENET, SEITON, HALEVY, BASRAWI, KETER, GIVE.

With deep sorrow we announce the death of

Mrs. Sonia Herz (nee Kotler)

For 15 years a symbol of faithfulness and devotion to work in our enterprise.

The funeral procession will leave the Hadassah Ziv Hospital today, Sunday, February 19, 1956, at 3 p.m.

Mosh's Laundry, Jerusalem.

Cables in Brief

VIRUS — The Soviet Union has been using "an effective live virus" influenza vaccine since 1951, Dr. Anatoli A. Smorodintsev, Director of Russia's Department of Virology, said in Washington. He and three other Russian scientists have spent the past month visiting U.S. hospitals and research institutes studying polio research and the Salk vaccine.

BURNED. — Five children were burned to death on Friday night when fire destroyed their two-story house in Lambert, northern New Brunswick. They were between two and 11 years old.

CHRETIEN. — Prof. Henri Chretien, the French inventor of Cinemascope, died in Washington last week at the age of 71.

LAW. — The Rockefeller Foun-

EMBRASSY. — The U.S. State Department has announced the

PROTESTANT. — A group of nine U.S. Protestant leaders will leave New York on March 9 for a 10-day visit to Moscow to confer with Orthodox and Protestant church leaders there. Soviet church leaders will visit the U.S. in June.

אברהם
שחרורם כבודתם!

A black and white illustration showing the lower legs and feet of several people walking. There are three pairs of legs visible, wearing various styles of shoes and trousers/skirts. The style is simple and graphic, typical of mid-20th-century magazine illustrations.

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Soloist:
GEZA ANDA (Piano)
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